

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application.

Office Action Objections and Rejections Summary

Claims 1, 7-11, 17, and 23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Jang et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,762,620).

Claims 24 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by the Admitted Prior Art (ADP) in the current application as shown in Figure 1. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Status of Claims

Claims 1, 4-17, 20-24, and 26 were pending in the present application. Claims 7 and 23-24 have been amended without introducing any new matter. Claims 1, 4-17, 20-24, and 26 remain pending.

Allowed Claims

Applicants note with appreciation that claims 4-6, 12-16 and 20-22 have been allowed. Accordingly, the following remark is directed towards only the remaining claims 1, 7-11, 17, and 23-26.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1, 7-11, 17, and 23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Jang et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,762,620; hereinafter, "Jang"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Claim 7 has been amended to depend from an allowable claim 4 and, therefore, claim 7 and its dependent claim 8 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 23 has been amended to depend from an allowable claim 20 and, therefore, claim 23 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 1 recites "**a comparator** ... to calibrate the first pull-up structure and the pull-down structure against a reference impedance; ... the comparator is operable to calibrate the second pull-up structure directly against the reference impedance." (Claim 1, emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that Jang fails to disclose at least the above limitation in claim 1.

According to Jang, the first comparator 140 compares the voltage at the pad ZQPAD with a voltage Vha1 generated by the reference voltage generation unit 130 (Jang, col. 6, ln. 55-58; Figure 5). The first comparator 140 does not calibrate a first pull-up structure and a pull-down structure against a reference impedance **and** calibrate a second pull-up structure directly against the reference impedance. Furthermore, the second comparator 142 in Jang compares the voltage value generated by the first self-calibration control unit 110 with the

voltage value at pad ZQPAD (Jang, col. 7, ln. 15-20; Figure 5). The second comparator 142 does not calibrate a first pull-up structure and a pull-down structure against a reference impedance *and* calibrate a second pull-up structure directly against the reference impedance. Therefore, Jang fails to disclose at least the above noted limitation of claim 1. For at least this reason, Jang does not anticipate claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 9-11 depend directly from claim 1, and thus, include the limitations set forth in claim 1. For at least the reason discussed above with respect to claim 1, Jang does not anticipate claims 9-11. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

Claim 17 recites, “calibrating a first pull-up structure *with a comparator* against a reference impedance; calibrating a pull down structure *with the comparator* ...; and calibrating the second pull-up structure *with the comparator* directly against the reference impedance” (claim 17, emphasis added). In contrast, Jang discloses a first comparator 140 to compare the voltage at the pad ZQPAD with a voltage V_{ha1} generated by the reference voltage generation unit 130 (Jang, col. 6, ln. 55-58; Figure 5). The second comparator 142 in Jang compares the voltage value generated by the first self-calibration control unit 110 with the voltage value at pad ZQPAD (Jang, col. 7, ln. 15-20; Figure 5). Jang does not disclose calibrating a first pull-up structure, a pull down structure, and a second pull-up structure with a comparator. Therefore, Jang fails to disclose at least the limitation of claim 17 noted above. For at least this reason, Jang does not anticipate claim 17. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claim 24 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by the Admitted Prior Art (ADP) in the current application as shown in Figure 1. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 24 as amended sets forth means for calibrating a first pull-up structure *directly* against a reference impedance and means for calibrating a second pull-up structure *directly* against the reference impedance (Claim 24, emphasis added). In contrast, the alleged ADP does not disclose any means for calibrating a first pull-up structure directly against a reference impedance and means for calibrating a second pull-up structure directly against the reference impedance (Specification, Figure 1). The second pull-up structure is calibrated against the first pull-up structure (Specification, para. [005] – [006]). For at least this reason, the alleged ADP does not anticipate claim 24 as amended. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claim 26 depends from claim 24, and thus, includes the limitations set forth in claim 24. For at least the reason discussed above with respect to claim 24, claim 26 is not anticipated by the alleged ADP. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection on claim 26.

Conclusion


Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call C. Teresa Wong at (408) 720-8300.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. If any other petition is necessary for consideration of this paper, it is hereby so petitioned.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)(3), Applicants hereby request and authorize the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to (1) treat any concurrent or future reply that requires a petition for extension of time as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time and (2) charge all required fees, including extension of time fees and fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17, to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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